David Pritchett

Hi. I'm David Pritchett.

Now is the time for change on the Santa Barbara City Council. I love Santa Barbara and I have ever since college at UCSB. I am grateful to live here, and I plan to, for the rest of my life.

Representing you and your family will be a responsibility I take very seriously as our community faces economic hardship and challenges about environmental quality, traffic congestion, and the well-being of our youth.

My team of volunteers and I have contacted thousands of voters so far, and I have heard your concerns about the City budget, public safety, and graffiti, to name just a few issues.

People are apprehensive about affordable housing and services for our seniors -- all while our economy gets tighter.

I understand these concerns, as I am a renter myself, and my household finances are tight as well.

I also want to make sure that Santa Barbara keeps our unique community character, so we do not end up like any other southern California beach town.

Why should you vote for me?

I run my own small business...and as an environmental scientist with 25 years experience working for private business, non-profits, and public agencies, I would bring to the City Council the ability to analyze data, to think critically, and to solve problems.

And I have a solid record of public service behind me. I have served more than 8 years on 2 prominent City committees. I am a founding member of the Creeks Committee, and now I serve as Chair of the Transportation and Circulation Committee.

I also am Board Chair for a local Special District agency. In that leadership role, I'm tightening the public budget, I'm denying spending requests, and I'm improving professional standards. And I led the way on the board to reduce pesticides in the environment.

In City government, we have plenty of room for improvement.

For instance, I want to put the public back into the Public Works Department, this would be with oversight and input through a new Public Works Commission... to be formed by consolidation of 2 existing Committees.

And above all, Santa Barbara must be safe from over-development, from street violence, from wildfire and flood. I believe my professional and life experience make me the best candidate to attack these problems in a fair and financially sound way.

We need to restore our fiscal reserves and gradually I want the City to hire 5 more police officers for patrol duty.

At my website, I describe in detail my plans for public safety, neighborhood preservation, rental housing protection, and responsive, open city government.

I consider every resident to be my neighbor, and I ask for your vote so we can make positive Change for Santa Barbara... because we can do better.

Thank you, and vote early -- once you receive that ballot in the mail.